Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

17. (Currently Amended)   A computer based system which enables a party and counterparty to be efficiently matched, comprising a first computer terminal into which the party inputs details of a potential first financial transaction, a second computer terminal into which the counterparty inputs details of a potential second financial transaction, a computer network connecting the first and second terminals; in which the first and second transactions relate to the purchase or sale of different kinds of financial property;

characterized in there being:

(a)   a computer program that allocates to each of the different kinds of financial property a unique identifier such that each possible combination of kinds of financial property to be bought and sold by parties and counterparties is uniquely identifiable by a combination identifier derived from a the unique identifiers; and,

(b)   a computer program arranged to determine, prior to the first and second transactions occurring, a net payment position if both the first and second transactions were to occur and to subsequently complete each transaction on the basis of the net payment position.

18. (Original)   The computer based system as claimed in Claim 17 wherein there are several party/counterparty pairs in a connected series of financial transactions such that only by combining all of the connected transactions are all of the parties and counterparties satisfied in whole or part.

19. (Original)   A computer based system as claimed in Claim 17 wherein the Internet comprises some of the network connecting the first and second terminals.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer based system of Claim 17 in which the first and second transactions relate to the sale or transfer of different kinds of financial property of a given

type, ~~such as~~ <u>the type being selected from the group consisting of</u> currency, foreign exchange, treasury bills, ~~and~~ stocks and shares.

21. (Original) The computer based system as claimed in Claim 17 wherein the program is designed to identify and complete transactions in first in – first out (FIFO) order limited only by a set of user defined parameters and transaction system rules.

22. Canceled

23. (Currently Amended) The computer based system of Claim ~~23~~ <u>17</u> in which each unique identifier is an assignment value number in the form 10^N, with N being different for each ~~currency~~ <u>financial property</u>.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer based system of Claim ~~24~~ <u>23</u> in which the assignment value combination identifier for a given combination of ~~currencies~~ financial properties is calculated by adding the unique identifiers for each ~~currency~~ <u>financial property</u> in that combination.

25. (Currently Amended) The computer based system of Claim ~~22~~ <u>17</u> in which a match between a combination of ~~currencies~~ <u>financial property</u> to be bought and a combination of ~~currencies~~ financial property to be sold is identified by a program able to calculate combination identifiers for all possible combinations to be bought and to be sold and to identify a match where a combination identifier for a combination to be sold equals a combination identifier for a combination to be bought.

26. (Currently Amended) The computer based system of Claim 25 in which the amount of ~~currency~~ <u>financial property</u> available for matching in any given combination is determined by a calculation which involves ~~converting~~ evaluating the ~~currencies~~ <u>financial properties</u> in that combination ~~to~~ <u>in terms of</u> a base currency.

27. (Currently Amended) A method of completing a foreign exchange transaction for a party, comprising the steps of:

(a)   the party defining a foreign exchange requirement, relating to the sale or disposal of different kinds of foreign exchange using a web browser;

(b)   sending the requirement via the Internet to a server; and

(c)   processing that requirement by identifying one or more matching counterparties using (i) a computer program that allocates to each of the different kinds of foreign exchange a unique identifier such that each possible combination of kinds of foreign exchange to be bought and sold is uniquely identifiable by a combination identifier derived from the unique identifiers and (ii) a computer program arranged to determine prior to the first and second transactions occurring, a net payment position between the party and a the or each counterparty and to subsequently complete the transaction between the party and the or each counterparty on the basis of the net payment position.

28. (Original)   The method of completing a foreign exchange transaction as claimed in Claim 27 in which a computer based system is used.

29. (Currently Amended) A server programmed to process a foreign exchange transaction between a party and a counterparty, the transaction relating to different kinds of foreign exchange, in which the server is programmed to (a) allocate to each of the different kinds of foreign exchange a unique identifier such that each possible combination of kinds of foreign exchange to be bought and sold by the party and counterparty is uniquely identifiable by a combination identifier derived from the unique identifiers, and (b) to determine, prior to the first and second transactions occurring, a net payment position between the party and a the counterparty if the transaction were to occur and subsequently to complete the transaction between the party and the counterparty on the basis of the net payment position.

30. (Currently Amended) The server of Claim 29 forming part of the a computer based system.

31. (Original)   A computer terminal acting as a client, in which the client accepts from a party a foreign exchange requirement and sends that requirement to a server as defined in Claim 30.

32. (Currently Amended) A method of obtaining foreign exchange comprising the following steps:

(a)   a party requiring foreign exchange defines a foreign exchange requirement using a web browser, the requirement defining one kind of currency to be bought and another to be sold;

(b)   the party sends the requirement via the Internet to a remote computer which processes or enables the processing of that requirement using a computer program arranged to (i) allocate to each of the different kinds of foreign exchange a unique identifier such that each possible combination of kinds of foreign exchange to be bought and sold is uniquely identifiable by a combination identifier derived from the unique identifiers and (ii) to determine, prior to the first and second transactions occurring, a net payment position between the party and a counterparty and subsequently to complete the foreign exchange transaction between the party and the counterparty on the basis of the net payment position; and

(c)   the party receives foreign exchange in satisfaction of its requirement.